

# MONTANA CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture  
**NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE**  
**MONTANA FIELD OFFICE**  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 22, 2015

**AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY:** Colder temperatures with scattered precipitation were the prevailing trends across Montana this week, with some areas also receiving damaging high winds. High temperatures ranged from 40 degrees to the upper 60s and low temperatures ranged from -19 degrees to 20 degrees. Precipitation was hit or miss across the State, but many stations received measurable precipitation, with the highest recorded this week in Millegan with 1.53 inches of moisture. Topsoil moisture conditions are 66 percent adequate to surplus which is behind both last year and the 5-year average as Montana enters the snowy season. Subsoil moisture conditions are 56 percent adequate to surplus which is below the 5-year average of 64 percent at this time and as well as last year's 80 percent. Corn harvested for grain continued with 78 percent harvested, which is behind last year's 93 percent but ahead of the 5-year average of 75 percent. Winter wheat condition is rated 73 percent good to excellent, compared with 70 percent last year and the 5-year average of 52 percent. Pasture and range conditions were unchanged from the previous week with 20 percent rated good to excellent, which remains well behind last year's 42 percent and the 5-year average of 35 percent. Livestock are receiving supplemental feed at lower rates than the previous year with 49 percent of cattle and 55 percent of sheep being fed, compared with 56 percent and 59 percent, respectively, last year.

### CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Corn				
Harvested for grain .....	78	74	93	75
Safflower				
Harvested .....	96	90	100	100
Cattle and calves				
Receiving supplemental feed .....	49	42	56	NA
Sheep and lambs				
Receiving supplemental feed .....	55	47	59	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero

**DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION**

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for fieldwork.....	3.9	5.1	1.5	3.0
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	10	10	4	7
Short.....	24	23	20	25
Adequate.....	59	60	68	64
Surplus.....	7	7	8	4
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	12	12	3	10
Short.....	32	32	17	26
Adequate.....	47	47	73	61
Surplus.....	9	9	7	3

NA – not available

(--) – zero

**CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION**

	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Pasture and Range				
Very poor.....	13	12	3	12
Poor.....	28	29	15	16
Fair.....	39	39	40	37
Good.....	19	19	34	30
Excellent.....	1	1	8	5
Winter Wheat				
Very poor.....	--	--	--	1
Poor.....	2	2	2	4
Fair.....	25	25	28	43
Good.....	57	57	43	41
Excellent.....	16	16	27	11

NA – not available

(--) – zero

Montana’s weather data can be accessed at the following:

[http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics\\_by\\_State/Montana/Publications/Crop\\_Progress\\_&\\_Condition/2015/MT\\_Weather\\_11222015.pdf](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Montana/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/2015/MT_Weather_11222015.pdf)